

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **HB 902 - SB 824**

April 14, 2005

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Prohibits the use of immunizations containing even trace amounts of mercury, including the preservative Thimerosal or trace amounts of Thimerosal, to any person in Tennessee. Requires health insurers to only reimburse providers for immunizations that are mercury free and to reimburse at the same rate prior to this act.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant**

Assumptions:

- The Department of Health would have no fiscal impact because Thimerosal-free immunizations may be substituted for Thimerosal containing immunizations at a negligible cost difference.
- The Department of Commerce and Insurance would enforce this bill upon receiving complaints that it is being violated which would not significantly impact the existing programs of the Department.
- The TennCare program could have a not significant increase in expenditures for any increase to reimbursements for immunizations that do not contain mercury.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director